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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES \$4,500,000 IN FUNDING FOR THE SHACKELFORD WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

ALBANY, TEXAS, June 10, 2005 – Bryan Daniel, USDA Rural Development State Director, announced today that the Shackelford Water Supply Corporation has been selected to receive \$4,500,000 in funding from the agency's Water and Waste Disposal Program. The funds will be used to make improvements to the existing water supply system and connect to the City of Albany's water treatment facility.

"USDA Rural Development is committed to serving the residents in rural Texas," said Daniel. "These funds will enable Shackelford Water Supply Corporation to update and improve their services, and better care for the needs of their more than 800 customers."

USDA Rural Development's Community Programs provide funding for construction, improvement, or expansion of water and waste disposal systems, telecommunication and education resources, and necessary community facilities.

USDA Rural Development's Water and Wastewater Program is designed to bring fresh, clean, drinking water and sanitary, environmentally sound sewage facilities to rural America's 53 million residents. Loans and grants are available to rural communities with fewer than 10,000 residents. Public bodies, corporations operating on a non-profit basis, and Indian tribes that are unable to obtain credit from other sources at reasonable rates and terms are eligible for assistance.

USDA Rural Development strives to see that rural citizens can participate fully in the global economy by providing technical assistance, funding, and other programs that help rural Americans build strong economies to improve their quality of life. For further information regarding USDA Rural Development programs, contact the Abilene office at (325) 690-6162 Ext. 4, or visit our website at http://rurdev.usda.gov/tx/.

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